S. Hrg. 99-744

NOMINATION OF ROBERT B. HELMS AND RONALD F. DOCKSAI

HEARING

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
UNITED STATES SENATE

NINETY-NINTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

ON

NOMINATION OF

ROBERT B. HELMS, PH.D., TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES FOR PLANNING AND EVALUATION AND RONALD F. DOCKSAI, PH.D., TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES FOR LEGISLATION

JUNE 19, 1986

Printed for the use of the Committee on Finance

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

61-852 WASHINGTON : 1986

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S361-83

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NOMINATIONS OF ROBERT B. HELMS, PH.D., TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR PLANNING AND EVALUATION AND RONALD F. DOCKSAI, PH.D., TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LEGISLATION, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 1986

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE,
Washington, DC.

The committee met, pursuant to notice, at 9:30 a.m. in room SD-215, Dirksen Senate Office Building, the Hon. David Durenberger presiding.

Present: Senators Durenberger and Grassley.

[The press release announcing the hearing follows:]

[Press release: Wednesday, June 11, 1986]

FINANCE COMMITTEE TO REVIEW HELMS AND DOCKSAI NOMINATIONS

Senator Bob Packwood (R-Oregon) announced today that the Senate Committee on Finance will hold a hearing on June 19, 1986, to review the nominations of Robert B. Helms, Ph.D. to be Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Planning an Evaluation and Ronald F. Docksai, Ph.D. to be Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Legislation.

Senator Packwood said that Senator Dave Durenberger (R-Minnesota) will chair the hearing which is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m., Thursday, June 19, 1986, in Room SD-215 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

Dr. Robert Helms has been Acting Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation at the Department of Health and Human Services since April of 1984. Prior to that, he was Deputy Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation/Health at the Department of Health and Human Services. From 1974 to 1981, Dr. Helms was Director of Health Policy Studies at the American Enterprise Institute. He has also served as Assistant Professor of Economics at Loyola College in Maryland. Dr. Helms is from Mobile, Alabama.

Dr. Helms received his bachelor's degree from Auburn University and his M.A. and Ph.D. in Economics at the University of California at Los Angeles.

Dr. Ronald F. Docksai has served as Staff Director for the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources since January of 1983. He also served as Majority Health Director for the Committee from December of 1980 to May of 1982. He was Special Assistant to the Director of the Office of Personnel Management from June, 1982 to January 1983. Dr. Docksai has also been Health Legislative Counsel to Senator Orrin G. Hatch (R-Utah) and Executive Assistant to Representative Robert K. Dornan (R-California). Dr. Docksai resides in Virginia.

Dr. Docksai received his bachelor's degree from St. John's University, his M.A. in International Relations and his Masters of Public Administration/Health at New York University. He also holds a Ph.D. in Government from Georgetown University.

Senator DURENBERGER. The hearing will come to order. Today we are gathered, dearly beloved, to consider the nominations of Robert B. Helms, Ph.D. and Ronald F. Docksai, Ph.D.—the wrong kind of doctors for this committee—for appointments to be respectively Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services, and Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services.

Going in the arrival of their sponsors, we will begin first with the introductions of Ronald F. Docksai, because his Senator arrived a little earlier.

Orrin.

Senator HATCH. I would be happy to defer to the others.

Senator DURENBERGER. All right, then. Robert B. Helms and both of his Senators are here now; Senator Howell Heflin and Senator Denton. Why don't you both come up, or all three of you? Get Dr. Helms in between you. It makes for good picture-taking.

STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE HOWELL T. HEFLIN, U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF ALABAMA

Senator HEFLIN. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, it is a pleasure for me to appear before the committee to participate in the introduction of Dr. Robert Helms, who has been nominated to be the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation for the Department of Health and Human Services. Dr. Helms is a native of Grove Hill, AL, and graduated from Auburn University with a B.S. degree in agricultural administration. I was interested to find out that he was a farmer at one time. That gives him a good background.

As a student at Auburn he received the Danforth Fellowship, which is awarded to the outstanding freshman in the field of agriculture. While at Auburn, he also received the Wall Street Journal Achievement Award. At Auburn, he was a member of several outstanding honorary societies. After he graduated from Auburn, he spent some time in the U.S. Army in Europe. He returned to school and received his M.A. and his Ph.D. in economics from the University of California at Los Angeles.

Dr. Helms became director of Health and Policy Studies at the American Enterprise Institute here in Washington, where he served for a period of 8 years. In 1981, he became the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Planning Evaluation in Health, for the Department of Health and Human Services, and served in that capacity until 1984 when he was named Acting Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation.

He brings to Government a variety of experiences, including 4 years as an assistant professor of economics at Loyola College in Baltimore, and involvement in a number of political campaigns as the issue expert. In this capacity, he was responsible for the preparation of position papers.

He holds memberships in numerous professional organizations and is the author of a number of publications.

I would be remiss in my duties and responsibilities if I did not point out that he comes from one of Alabama's most distinguished families. His mother, Mrs. O. C. Helms, was selected Citizen of the

Year in 1984 in Grove Hill, AL. This award is sponsored by the Grove Hill Civitan Club, and Mrs. Helms was nominated by the Grove Hill Community Study Club, of which she is a member, for her valuable contributions to her community during her life in Grove Hill.

Dr. Helm's father, Mr. O.C. Helms, is a retired Clark County, AL. extension agent, who was named the Clark County 1985 Leadership Award winner in the Alabama Resource and Leadership Development Program. The senior Mr. Helms has been cited for his work in agriculture, community development, and community life during the past 50 years.

Mr. Chairman, I am therefore not surprised that Dr. Helms has followed in the footsteps of his parents by distinguishing himself as a primary policy adviser to the Secretary of Health and Human Services, particularly in the areas of health care, welfare, Social Security, and social service.

Dr. Helms has done an outstanding job with the Department, working on projects pertaining to welfare reform, capital reimbursement for hospitals, payment for drugs under Medicare, the tax treatment of health insurance, and health care cost containment in the private sector.

He has been primarily responsible for the development of the administration's health incentive reform proposals in the Health and Human Services report to the Congress on the payment for hospital capital costs. He has also chaired the task forces on hospital deregulation and prescription drug policies. This outstanding Alabamian has developed a series of studies in conferences to analyze issues in health finance and insurance, hospital regulation, and medical malpractice.

I sincerely believe that Dr. Helms' extensive experience in the field of health care, coupled with his sound reputation and impeccable character, will make him an outstanding Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation for the Department of Health and Human Services. Certainly, he has already demonstrated that he is imminently qualified to do an outstanding job in the Department of Health and Human Services; and I am happy, along with Senator Denton, to help introduce him to this distinguished panel today.

Senator DURENBERGER. We thank you very much for that endorsement.

Senator Denton.

STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE JEREMIAH DENTON, U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF ALABAMA

Senator DENTON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will try to avoid repetition, in that Senator Heflin did such a fine job. Dr. Robert Helms, of course, is the President's nominee for Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation at the Department of HHS, and it is as much a pleasure for me as it is for my senior colleague when an Alabamian is singled out and recognized for achievements or when their years of preparation qualify them to serve in the highest ranks of our Government.

And there is no man whom I have had the privilege of helping introduce who better exemplifies that than the gentleman sitting between these two Senators this morning.

I believe that Dr. Helms and I share the same birth place, the fair port city on the gulf, Mobile. So, he was actually born there; he is one of the fortunate people to bear that distinction. As Senator Heflin pointed out, it has been quite a while since Dr. Helms has resided in Alabama; but his roots there run deep. His parents are not only honored and respected pillars of the community of Grove Hill, Clark County, but are well known in Mobile, where I make my home, as distinguished Alabamians.

Mr. Chairman, Dr. Helms, has served in the job for which he is being nominated for over 2 years. His record is known. His numerous statements before various subcommittees in the Senate and in the House have helped to shape our policy decisions on a broad range of issues, including, as mentioned, the containment of health care costs. He has been involved in the formulation and evaluation of Reagan administration health policy since 1981 when he became the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health Planning and Evaluation.

His approval by your committee, Mr. Chairman, and his confirmation by the full Senate, will assure important continuity as we attempt to resolve critical problems in the cost and quality of the health care available to all Americans.

I understand from Dr. Helms that some of the primary projects now being undertaken by the Planning and Evaluation Office include capital reimbursement for hospitals, catastrophic health insurance, which I certainly hope reaches fruition, and welfare reform. His advanced background in economics is a proven asset in dealing with all of those crucial issues.

I am particularly gratified that he is working on significant reform of our important and necessary welfare programs, and I am sure that, since I have been trying to help in that since 1980, we will be working together. I am pleased that he sees that initiative as important, and I know that needy Americans will benefit by the work that he continues to perform in that field.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman, for this opportunity and privilege, and I commend Robert Helms to you, urging your immediate and favorable consideration of his nomination.

Senator DURENBERGER. Jerry, thank you very much. I certainly agree that this President has been able, like no other, to find some credibly competent Alabamians. The place is just full of them, and they are all very, very talented. He certainly has found a lot more Alabamians than he has found Minnesotans. [Laughter.]

Maybe 49 to 1 has something to do with that. I don't have a formal statement before I introduce Dr. Helms, but for me, as chairman of this little subcommittee that I chair, this is a particularly enjoyable occasion because there aren't a lot of people that over the years have understood what is happening in health policy development. And so, those that do are easily recognized. Bob Helms is one of those people, and he is a person I have come to admire. I think, Jerry, you referred to the work that he has done and the contributions that he is making on hospital capital reform; and that is just one example of what Bob Helms has done.

But the unique thing about it is he has done it in the way that—and I don't know his mother or his father or his family roots—but when you say his dad was an extension agent, that really says a lot about why Bob's style and his commitment are what they are.

So, I am just personally, just as a Senator—and not as a member of this committee—I am just grateful that the American people are going to be blessed with his talents.

And with that, Bob, have you a formal statement that you would like to make?

Jerry, if you would run over to the Armed Services Committee now, they are having their briefing.

Senator DENTON. I know.

Senator DURENBERGER. And they would love to have you over there.

Senator DENTON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

STATEMENT OF ROBERT B. HELMS, PH.D., NOMINEE TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR PLANNING AND EVALUATION, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Dr. HELMS. First of all, Mr. Chairman, I would like to submit for the record a short statement.

Informally, I would say first of all, I would like to thank the Senators for their kind words; and I am especially pleased to hear their comments about my parents. If this accomplishes nothing else, it gives them some recognition of a very long and I think distinguished career in Alabama helping the community and the State. I think it is worth it.

I would like to thank the President for nominating me, and particularly Secretary Bowen for his trust in me. We have some very important issues. It is easy to say that we are studying this problem and that problem. It is more difficult to come up with reasonable solutions to them; but I think the Secretary has shown strong leadership in this Department, and we have a very good team of people there.

I am really looking forward to working with all of them. Thank you very much.

Senator DURENBERGER. Let me introduce your wife, Sharon, and your daughters, Elissa and Julie, who are here with you today as well.

Bob, I don't have anything else to ask of you. I would like to note for the record that the committee has reviewed the nominees and the financial disclosure materials, and we have received a letter from the Director of Government Ethics signifying that Dr. Helms is in compliance with the Ethics in Government Act. The complete letter will be made part of the record. If there are any questions by members of the Finance Committee to be asked prior to reporting your nomination, we will see that they are submitted to you.

Thank you very much for being here.

Dr. HELMS. Thank you very much.

[The prepared written statement and a biographical sketch of Dr. Helms, and the letter from the Office of Government Ethics follow:]

STATEMENT OF ROBERT B. HELMS, Ph.D.

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee, it is a great honor to appear before you today. I am grateful to President Reagan for nominating me as Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, and I look forward to serving him and Secretary Bowen in their efforts to address the many issues that face the Department of Health and Human Services.

The programs of the Department are crucial to the lives of many Americans. It is, therefore, extremely important to assure they are well managed and that funding is focused where it will do the most good, especially during this period of budget constraints.

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation is charged with policy development and analysis. I have served in that office since 1981, and I am well aware of the challenging agenda my staff and I face. We are currently developing proposals on how the government and the private sector can work together on the problem of the catastrophic illness costs. We are also assisting the Domestic Policy Council in a welfare reform study by making available the extensive research this office has conducted on the problem of long-term welfare dependency. The issues of capital payments to hospitals, medical malpractice, physician reimbursement, the provision of long-term care services, and teenage pregnancy are also of immediate concern.

Solving the problems confronting us in any of these areas will not be simple; my goal is to make sure we have the type of

planning process that will bring together the best available ideas and information to inform the debate. In that effort I am aware how important it is for the Administration to work with you, state and local governments, the academic community, and the private sector to gather insights and to craft solutions to our common problems.

I look forward to the challenges ahead.

Mr. Chairman, I am happy to respond to your questions.

INFORMATION ON **ROBERT B. HELMS**, NOMINEE
ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR PLANNING AND EVALUATION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

A. BIOGRAPHICAL

1.	Name	Robert B. Helms
2.	Address	14317 Yosemite Court Rockville, Maryland 20853
3.	Date and Place of birth	January 12, 1940 Mobile, Alabama
4.	Martial status	Married to Sharon Schliebe Helms
5.	Names & ages of children	Elissa L. Helms, 16 Julianne N. Helms, 13

6. Education:

- o 1958-62, Auburn University, B.S., Agricultural Administration, 1962.
- o 1964-66, University of California at Los Angeles, M.A., Economics, 1966.
- o 1966-73, University of California at Los Angeles, Ph.D., Economics, 1973.

7. Employment record:

- o Sept. 1971 to June 1974, Assistant Professor of Economics, Loyola College, Baltimore, Maryland.
- o June 1974 to April 1981, Director of Health Policy Studies, American Enterprise Institute, Washington, D.C.
- o April 1981 to April 1984, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation/Health, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C.
- o April 1984 to Present, Acting Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C.

8. Government experience:

- o 1962-64: U.S. Army, active duty in Europe.
- o 1964-67: U.S. Army Reserve.
- o 1972: Conducted a short study on natural gas regulation for the U.S. Price Commission.
- o 1981 to present: See government employment listed in No. 7 above.

9. Memberships:

- Professional:

  Member, American Economic Association
  Member, Executive Level-IV, an organization for Assistant Secretaries.

- Fraternal:

  Member, Alpha Gamma Rho, national agricultural fraternity; President, Xi Chapter, Auburn University, 1960-61.

- Other:

  Member, Rockville Tennis Association
  Member, Silver Spring YMCA
  Member, Manor Woods Swim Club
  Member, St. Andrews Lutheran Church; Member of Finance Committee, 1984 to present.

10. Political affiliations and activities:

- 1979, Prepared issue papers for the Reagan Election Committee.
- 1980, Prepared background material for the Reagan Bush Committee in preparation for the TV debates.
- Political contributions:

1983 -	GOP Victory Fund	$100
1984 -	GOP Victory Fund	100
	National Federation of Republican Women	15
	National Republican Senatorial Committee	40
1985 -	GOP Victory Fund	50
	National Federation of Republican Women	10

11. Honors and Awards:

- 1959, Danforth Fellowship (to outstanding freshman in agriculture, Auburn Univ.)
- 1961, Wall Street Journal Achievement Award
- 1962, Gamma Sigma Delta (agricultural honor society)
  Alpha Zata (agricultural honor society)

12. Published writings:

o Publications

Natural Gas Regulation: An Evaluation of FPC Price Controls, American Enterprise Institute, Washington, D.C., 1974.

Drug Development and Marketing (editor). American Enterprise Institute, Washington, D.C., 1975.

"Regulating the Cost of Health Care: Can We Learn from Experience?" in J. Alex Murray, ed., Health Care Delivery Systems in North America: The Changing Concepts (Windsor, Ontario: University of Windsor Press, 1977), pp. 45-49. Also appears as AEI Reprint No. 85.

"Contemporary Health Policy: Dealing With the Cost of Care," in William Fellner, ed., Contemporary Economic Problems 1978 (Washington, D.C.: American Enterprise Institute, 1978), pp. 327-353.

"The Health Cost Problem: Is Regulation Our Only Hope?" The Bulletin of the New York Academy of Medicine, vol. 56, no. 1 (January/February 1980).

The International Supply of Medicines (editor). American Enterprise Institute (Washington, D.C., 1980).

"Food and Drug Administration - Advice to the President-Elect" (Regulation, November/December 1980).

Drugs and Health: Economic Issues and Policy Objectives (editor). American Enterprise Institute (Washington, D.C., 1981).

(with Glenn M. Hackbarth) "The Reagan Approach Calls for Subtle Support of Alternative Delivery Systems" (Business and Health, January/February 1984), pp. 11-14.

(with Robert J. Rubin, M.D.) "Medicare Payment of Hospital Capital Related Costs." Journal of the Healthcare Financial Management Association, vol. 38, no. 4 (April 1984), pp. 21-28.

"What is Today's Price for Health?" (Medical Group Management, September/October 1984), pp.24-26.

United States
Office of Government Ethics
P O Box 14108
Washington, D C 20044

JUN - 2 1986

Honorable Robert Packwood
Chairman, Committee on Finance
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In accordance with the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, I enclose a copy of the financial disclosure report filed by Robert B. Helms, who has been nominated by President Reagan for the position of Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services.

We have reviewed the report and have also obtained advice from the Department of Health and Human Services concerning any possible conflict in light of the Department's functions and the nominee's proposed duties. Based thereon, we believe Mr. Helms is in compliance with applicable laws and regulations governing conflicts of interest.

Sincerely,

David H. Martin
Director

Enclosure

CON 132-64-0

Senator DURENBERGER. Let me now introduce Dr. Ronald F. Docksai, who is the President's nominee to be Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services. Along with him is our dear colleague from the State of Utah, whose reputation in the field of health and health policy doesn't have to be recited by the chair of this committee's subcommittee, who is full of admiration for the contributions that my colleague has made. I think it is particularly significant in the role that Ron is going to have to take on, which is the link between the legislative branch and the executive branch, that the person who has been at least in part his mentor, if you will, thinks highly enough of him to be here today and to testify on his behalf.

Orrin, please take over.

STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE ORRIN G. HATCH, U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF UTAH

Senator HATCH. Thank you so much, Mr. Chairman. And likewise, I feel equally the same toward you and your leadership in the field of health. You have set some tremendous standards in this country, and it is really a pleasure to work with you.

It is also a pleasure to be before this committee, with which we often have jurisdictional disputes that we most of the time lose, but in any event we are grateful to be here.

I would just like to say a word or two about Bob Helms. I would just like to lend my voice to support him. He has done a terrific job down there. He is a great human being, and I just feel very deeply toward him as well.

But I am here to basically recommend one of my dear friends and literally for whom I have tremendous personal affection, Dr. Ron Docksai. Ron will make an excellent Assistant Secretary for Legislation at HHS.

And those of us who know Ron, and I know him very, very well, I think most everybody would say that he is really a natural candidate for this job. You have just indicated that yourself. He has tremendous experience.

He first came to our committee in 1978 when we were in the minority, and those were very perilous and difficult times as well. During the intervening 8 years that he has served on this committee, he has been virtually our taskmaster on the committee. We have put out a plethora of legislation that now is law in this country that he has a tremendous imprint on, some of which is landmark legislation, ranging from home health care to drug regulatory reform to disease prevention, health promotion, initiatives—just to mention a few health programs that stand out in my mind, since this is such an important position in these particular areas.

Senator DURENBERGER. He explained to me the other day how he got you involved in home health care. [Laughter.]

Senator HATCH. That is right. He deserves a lot of the credit for most of the success we have had on that committee. I know we Senators seem to get a lot of the credit, but I think the staff people are the ones who really make things operate and roll; and Ron, of course, has been the quintessential staff leader. I might say that we on the committee know that his word is his bond.

Senator Kennedy has also had high praise for Ron. He knows that sometimes I differ with him in philosophy. I know that is difficult to believe, but in any event, Ron has been able to negotiate and bring both sides together on that very volatile committee, time after time after time, in ways that I think nobody else could have done.

And I think he would agree—Senator Kennedy with me—that Ron Docksai is one of the best things that has happened to the Labor and Human Resources Committee in years. And I think that his commitment to accept the President's nomination in this case is going to be a big loss to us.

On the other hand, nothing gives me more pride or more joy in my service here than to see good people who have worked with us go on to bigger and better things so they can serve even more people. This is a man who really knows his way around this town. He is a totally wonderful, admirable person, along with his wife, Mary, who is here today, and just somebody I have total confidence in. He will do the best job, I think, that has ever been done at HHS; and if he doesn't he is going to hear from me.

I just want to say that and to lend my support to him in every way possible, and I know that you also will support him, Mr. Chairman, and I appreciate that.

Senator DURENBERGER. I thank you for that statement. It is going to be interesting, when Ron has a chance to speak, to see whether he agrees with you that really going on to be an Assistant Secretary of HHS is bigger and better things. [Laughter.]

I would assume, looking from the typical view of the staff director of an important committee like Labor and Human Resources, there aren't any bigger or better things.

Senator HATCH. That is a very important change in direction and an important change in professional life and one that I think he will add greatly to, but will add greatly to him. I am very proud of him.

Senator DURENBERGER. Thank you very much.

Senator HATCH. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I had better get to the Judiciary Committee; but I appreciate your inviting me and I appreciate the courtesy you have shown me.

Senator DURENBERGER. Ron, you introduced me to your sister-in-law, Dr. Margaret Mastal, who is here, and your wife, Mary.

Dr. DOCKSAI. My wife, Mary Docksai, is also here, although my little boy, Rick, is at home this morning, suffering from a strep throat.

Senator DURENBERGER. Your son has a bad throat this morning; is that it?

Dr. DOCKSAI. Yes, and my mother-in-law Mrs. Clare Fisk is at home staffing him. No pun intended.

Senator DURENBERGER. I appreciate very much your being here, and the whole committee appreciates the fact that you have seen fit to think enough of this very important job to take it on. I was in part being fecetious in talking about bigger and better things, but normally, we do sit up here somehow or other—maybe it is the elevation—thinking that we can get more done around this place than you can somewhere else; but having looked over your background and having had an opportunity to talk to people that have watched

you work professionally, I am impressed by the fact that you wouldn't be doing this unless you felt you could make an even greater contribution to your country and particularly to health policy by doing it.

And that is a conclusion I have come to, independently of your talking me into it or anything like that. So, we here are complimented by the position that you have taken and the recommendation that the President and the Secretary have made. And if you have a written statement, it will be made part of the record; and you may proceed with whatever testimony you would like to present to the committee.

STATEMENT OF RONALD F. DOCKSAI, NOMINEE TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LEGISLATION, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Dr. DOCKSAI. Yes, sir. I would like to say, so that it is in the written record, that I am overwhelmed by Senator Hatch's comments. I am one of many staffers on the Labor and Human Resources Committee who have come to not only know and take leadership from, but have great affection for our boss, Senator Hatch. We feel this affection in spite of the rigor of what is known as the go-hour "Hatch workday" in our committee. Seriously, we have great affection for our boss. He is one of the finest men I have ever met, and he has been very, very, good to me.

I do have a brief prepared statement, Mr. Chairman, and it would be briefer still if I may simply submit it for the record. I would just like to summarize by saying that it is an honor to appear before you as President Reagan's nominee to be Assistant Secretary for Legislation of the Department of Health and Human Services.

I had the privilege of first meeting Dr. Bowen 11 years ago while I was stationed at Fort Harrison, IN. That meeting, I think, was more memorable then for me than for Dr. Bowen. One of the great incentives of going to the Department will be to work much more closely with Secretary Bowen on a daily basis. I go there, as you have noted, Mr. Chairman, as a former Senate staff director, so I feel especially sensitive to the needs of Senators, Congressmen, and staff. I have had the pleasure of working with many of the members and staff on this committee, especially with members of your own staff, Mr. Chairman; and it has been a very great relationship. Many of the most important things we have done have been accomplishments which have come in the wake of bipartisan efforts.

I hope that this spirit may continue. I recognize that any Assistant Secretary of Legislation has a responsibility to expedite the flow of information both ways and to report to Secretary Bowen on your particular needs, the needs of the committee, constituent needs, and the other attendant requirements which go along with the job.

So, thank you again, Mr. Chairman, and I would be willing to answer any questions.

Senator DURENBERGER. Thank you very much.

[The prepared written statement and a biographical sketch of Dr. Docksai and a letter from the Office of Government Ethics follow:]

STATEMENT OF RONALD F. DOCKSAI, NOMINEE TO BE THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES FOR LEGISLATION BEFORE THE UNITED STATES SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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JUNE 19, 1986 9:30 A.M.
215 DIRKSEN SENATE BUILDING

MR. CHAIRMAN:

I AM HONORED TO APPEAR BEFORE YOU AND THE OTHER DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF THIS COMMITTEE DURING ITS CONSIDERATION OF MY NOMINATION TO BECOME THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LEGISLATION, OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

I FEEL PRIVILEGED TO BE NOMINATED BY PRESIDENT REAGAN FOR THIS SENSITIVE POSITION OF RESPONSIBILITY, AND IT IS AN UNDERSTATEMENT TO SAY THAT I AM EAGER TO JOIN THE NEW H.H.S. MANAGEMENT TEAM. ELEVEN YEARS AGO, WHILE SERVING AS A COMMISSIONED ARMY OFFICER STATIONED AT FORT HARRISON, INDIANA, I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO BRIEFLY MEET DOCTOR BOWEN WHILE HE WAS GOVERNOR. IF MY NOMINATION IS APPROVED BY THIS COMMITTEE, I WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEE DOCTOR BOWEN MORE FREQUENTLY AND TO SEEK HIS COUNSEL AND GUIDANCE IN MY APPRENTICESHIP AS AN "HONORARY HOOSIER."

I WILL ALSO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN WITH THOSE MEN AND WOMEN IN THE DEPARTMENT WHO SHARE WHAT IS EUPHEMISTICALLY CALLED A "HILL PERSPECTIVE." AS A FORMER SENATE COMMITTEE STAFF DIRECTOR, AND HAVING ENJOYED DIFFERENT STAFF GUISES IN BOTH THE HOUSE AND SENATE, I AM SENSITIVE TO STAFF AND MEMBER PROBLEMS, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THE SECRETARY, DOCTOR BOWEN, THE UNDERSECRETARY, DON NEWMAN AND THE OTHER OUTSTANDING MEMBERS OF THEIR ASSEMBLED TEAM TO PERFECT THE DEPARTMENT'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE HOUSE AND SENATE.

IN PURSUIT OF THIS BETTER RELATIONSHIP, I AM AWARE OF THE WAYS IN WHICH AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LEGISLATION IS EXPECTED TO HELP. HE OR SHE MUST ACCURATELY AND EFFECTIVELY COMMUNICATE TO YOU THE ADMINISTRATION'S VIEWS, DOING SO IN A TIMELY FASHION. COUPLED WITH THIS OBLIGATION IS THE RESPONSIBILITY TO ASSIST THE H.H.S. SECRETARY BY EXPEDITIOUSLY CONVEYING TO HIM YOUR VIEWS AND NEEDS, INCLUDING THE EXCHANGE OF NECESSARY AND FACTUALLY CORRECT INFORMATION, AND THE SATISFACTION OF YOUR CONSTITUENTS' NEEDS.

MR. CHAIRMAN, I PLEDGE TO YOU AND TO THE OTHER DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF THIS COMMITTEE THAT I AND ALL THOSE WHO WILL SERVE ON MY STAFF WILL AT ALL TIMES WORK TO DO WHAT IS RIGHT, AND THAT WE WILL BE READY AND ABLE TO ASSIST YOU AND THE MEMBERS OF YOUR STAFFS WHENEVER AND HOWEVER WE CAN DO SO.

TESTIFYING BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES LAST DECEMBER, IMMEDIATELY IN THE WAKE OF HIS OWN CONFIRMATION HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, DOCTOR BOWEN COMMITTED HIMSELF IN THE EXECUTION OF HIS DUTIES AS THE NEW SECRETARY TO WEIGH EACH POLICY DECISION BY BALANCING THE NEEDS OF THE POOR, THE AFFLICTED, THE TAXPAYER AND THE PROVIDER. THERE CONTINUES THE GEOMETRIC INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF AMERICANS REQUIRING EXPENSIVE FORMS OF CHRONIC AND ACUTE MEDICAL CARE, WHILE THERE EXIST ONLY ARITHMETIC INCREASES IN THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO PROVIDE FOR SUCH CARE. THE SECRETARY'S PURSUIT OF POLICIES TO INCREASE THE ACCESS AS WELL AS THE QUALITY OF CARE WITHOUT INCREASING THE COSTS IS THE GREAT "RUBIK'S CUBE" OF AMERICAN DOMESTIC POLICY, GIVING DRAMATIC URGENCY TO DR. BOWEN'S CALL FOR INNOVATIVE THINKING AMONG HEALTH POLICYMAKERS.

THE SUCCESS OF THIS UNDERTAKING IS MEASURED BY THE COOPERATION EXHIBITED BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT AND CAPITOL HILL, AND I PROMISE TO DO ALL THAT I CAN TO STRENGTHEN THE LINES OF COMMUNICATION WHICH MAKE SUCH COOPERATION POSSIBLE. IF MY NOMINATION IS APPROVED BY THIS COMMITTEE AND BY THE SENATE, I WILL LOOK FORWARD WITH GREAT PLEASURE TO CONTINUING MY WORK WITH THE DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS AND STAFF OF THIS COMMITTEE AND TO SERVING YOUR NEEDS TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY.

INFORMATION PROVIDED FOR THE
U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

pending Presidential nomination to be
Assistant Secretary of Legislation
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services June 9, 1986

A. BIOGRAPHICAL

1. Name:	Ronald Frederick Docksai
2. Address:	2000 Roundhouse Road Vienna, Virginia 22180
3. Date and place of birth:	July 17, 1949 New York City
4. Marital Status:	married November 25, 1978 to former Mary Clare Fisk of Red Bank, New Jersey
5. Children:	Ronald F. ("Rick") Docksai, Jr. born November 13, 1982 in Washington, D.C.
6. Education:	B.A. (in political science) St. John's University, N.Y., 1971. M.A./M.P.A. (public administration/health) New York University, N.Y., 1974. A.G. (adjutant gen. administration degree), U.S. ARMY INSTITUTE OF ADMINISTRATION, Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana, 1975. PhD. (government) Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., 1986*
7. Employment record:	a) Staff Director, U.S. Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources; 428 Dirksen Senate Building, Washington, D.C.; January, 1983 to the present. b) Special Asst. to the Director, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.; June, 1982 to January, 1983.

(employment record, cont.)

c) Majority Health Director,
U.S. Senate Committee on
Labor and Human Resources;
Washington, D.C.;
December, 1980 to May, 1982.

d) "Health Legislative Counsel"
(Professional Staff Member);
for Senator Orrin G. Hatch;
June, 1978 to December, 1980.

e) Executive Assistant to
Hon. Robert K. Dornan, M.C.,
Cannon House Office Building,
Washington, D.C.;
1977 to 1978.

f) Chief Legislative Aide to
Hon. Robert E. Bauman, M.C.
Cannon House Office Building,
Washington, D.C.;
1974 to 1977.

g) Special Assistant, (write/research)
Center for the Public Interest, Inc.,
Washington, D.C.;
1972 to 1973.

h) graduate teaching assistant to
Prof. Howard Penniman,
Georgetown University
Graduate School of Government,
Washington, D.C.
1971 to 1974.

8. Government Experience: (all paid professional positions are listed above)

non-paid service positions also held:

served as OPM representative to the President's Taskforce on Performance, Compensation, Incentives and Efficiency (P.C.I.E.); and as OPM member of the Federal Employees' Compensation Act (F.E.C.A.) Taskforce, 1982.

served as U.S. delegate to the Chester A. Bowles Seminar on International Economic Development, sponsored by the U.S.I.C.A. (USIA), May-June, 1980, in Ootacamun, India.

9. Memberships:

a) U.S. Council of Catholic Charities, member since 1985;

b) U,S, American Political Science Association, member since 1977;

c) National Geographic Society, "sustaining member," since 1982.

10. Political affiliations:

a) member of the board, Republican Party of Northern Virginia, 1974-1977 (unpaid);

b) volunteer for Reagan-Bush Committee, 1980 and 1984 (unpaid)

11. Honors and Awards:

a) Young Men's Business Council of Greater New Orleans, "Speaker Award," 2/1/78;

b) U.S. National Economic Council, received their 1970, "M.K. Hart Award," 12/3/70;

c) delivered academic paper and received A.P.S.A. "degree of recognition" at the American Political Science Association convention, Washington Hilton, 9/3/77, on the topic, "Walt Whitman Rostow and Walter Bagehot: The Strength of Commonwealth"; also, at the American Political Science Convention at The Washington Hilton, 9/2/79, on the topic, "Latin-America and the Nationstate System."

d) delivered the Commencement address and received an honorary degree at Lehigh County Comm. College, Allentown, Pa., June 5, 1971, on the topic, "Reflections on the Revolution in America."

e) received school tuition scholarships during junior and senior years at St. John's University, New York, (undergraduate) from the college, and from the Thomas Jefferson Communications' Foundation, Inc.

12. Published Writings: a) "Federally Funded Demonstration Projects: Following the Path of S. 234," home health care monograph for the Pride Institute Journal of Long Term Home Health Care (St. Vincent's Hospital, New York City), Summer, 1984 (COPY ATTACHED);

b) "The Department of Health and Human Services," Chapter 6 of the MANDATE FOR LEADERSHIP II (The Heritage Foundation), 1984. (COPY ATTACHED);

c) "The Department of Education: Blueprint for Reform," chapter of MANDATE FOR LEADERSHIP (The Heritage Foundation), 1980. (COPY ATTACHED).

d) "Year End Report: Committee on Labor and Human Resources," published report submitted to Sen. Howard Baker, December 6, 1984. (COPY ATTACHED);

e) "George S. Patton: A Magnificent Anachronism," 2 part series for The Nashville Banner, Nashville, Tenn., Oct. 31, 1970.

f) "Mother Teresa of Calcutta: Her Mission of Love," published in several magazines, November, 1980;

g) contributed to "Pharmaceuticals in The Year 2000," by the Foresight Seminar Series, Committee for the Future, Inc., 1979

h) wrote chapter promoting disease prevention and health promotion, and voluntarism in "Agenda 2000," published by the Committee for a Free Congress, Inc., 1983;

United States
Office of Government Ethics
P O Box 14108
Washington, D C 20044

JUN 10 1986

Honorable Robert Packwood
Chairman, Committee on Finance
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In accordance with the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, I enclose a copy of the financial disclosure report filed by Robert F. Docksai, who has been nominated by President Reagan for the position of Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services.

We have reviewed the report and have also obtained advice from the Department of Health and Human Services concerning any possible conflict in light of the Department's functions and the nominee's proposed duties. Based thereon, we believe that Mr. Docksai is in compliance with applicable laws and regulations governing conflicts of interest.

Sincerely,

David H. Martin
Director

Enclosure

Senator DURENBERGER. I don't have any questions. I don't know if there are any that have been submitted by the committee members.

I would like then to note for the record that the committee has reviewed this nominee's financial disclosure materials and has received a letter from the Director of the Office of Government Ethics signifying that Dr. Docksai is in compliance with the Ethics in Government Act and is complete. The letter will be made part of the record.

Ron, if you don't have any questions, or Bob? I know it is a disappointment not to have this thing go on for 3 hours, but——[Laughter.]

On behalf of the chairman of this committee, Senator Packwood, the ranking member of this committee, Senator Long, and Senator Grassley, I want to again thank each of you and your families for taking on this special responsibility.

I might ask my colleague from Iowa if he has any comments to make about either of these witnesses or any questions he would like to ask.

Senator GRASSLEY. I don't have any questions, Mr. Chairman, but I do want to praise both of them and particularly Dr. Docksai, whom I know is a very competent staff director on another Senate committee. I want to wish him well, and obviously, he will do well; and I assume he sees this as professional advancement, but he did such a good job where he is and we are going to miss him, that I hope he is not disappointed, and I am sure he won't be. Good luck to you, and of course, our relationship will continue, and I look forward to your input at this other level—not necessarily higher, though.

Dr. DOCKSAI. Thank you, Senator. Although right now, I am only a couple of floors away from this committee, in a month, I will be just a few buildings away; so any more work you need, please let me know.

Senator DURENBERGER. Thank you all very much. The hearing is concluded.

[Whereupon, at 9:55 a.m., the hearing was adjourned.]

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